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CHINA COLLEGE BOARD REPORT

At its annual meeting on May 5th, the United Board for Christian Colleges in China reported activities and adopted a policy and program which make it clear that it has survived a period of serious adjustment and has assumed challenging responsibilities elsewhere than on the mainland of China.

During the past year the Board has become aware that developments on the mainland have for the time freed it from many of its former responsibilities. It has also come to see that there are many incompletely met opportunities and challenges elsewhere in East Asia. Finally, it recognizes an obligation for the use of resources, in organization and experience as well as funds, which might be shared with others.

On the basis of these and other conclusions, the United Board adopted a policy for the next few years, of which the following are the high points.

1. The United Board will continue at approximately the present level the long-term current program on which it is now engaged within the geographical and functional areas already staked out.
2. In addition to such a current program, the United Board will be prepared to render short-term aid in meeting urgent needs and opportunities in areas not now its immediate responsibility, e.g. Indonesia, Korea, the Philippines.
3. In maintaining its current program and any short-term aid, the United Board will not only depend on the usual contributions from mission boards, foundations, and individuals but will draw on funds no longer usable for the mainland colleges.
4. The United Board will welcome opportunities to render wider service in East Asia, but will assume new long-term responsibilities only as those can be financed outside its present sources of income.

The United Board program for 1953-54 will continue to follow very much the pattern of the past year but with provision for new short-term aid or long-term association in East Asia as the need for those becomes clear.

Major projects in being or under way include two colleges, two student centers, a language institute, some fifteen scholarships in Asia and thirty-five in North America, a literature program a spiritual ministry, historical and critical studies of the China Colleges, aid to agriculture, home economics, and vocational training, and a fellowship of intercession. The Board now has workers in New York, Chicago, Boston, and Hartford, and fellows in fifteen other centers. In East Asia it has commitments not only in Formosa and Hong Kong but in Japan, the Philippines, Malaya, Indonesia, and even one scholarship in India. It is engaged in a surprisingly rich and balanced program which is far-flung in its outreach. The Board's name, rich in tradition and sentiment though it is, is becoming an increasingly inaccurate guide to its activities.

The United Board has also prepared a re-statement of faith in the potentialities of the Christian college, which it will be happy to send to anyone interested. This reviews former goals,

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discusses new and disturbing factors, emphasizes unchanging needs, examines other techniques and colleges, tries to define a Christian college, lists some vital emphases and some basic principles, and points out some fundamental problems before ending with the following statement:

"In closing, we would state our conviction that Christian colleges are more badly needed today than at any time in the history of the Christian Church in East Asia, for without them Christianity cannot hope to win the increasingly numerous and significant intelligentsia of that area. But they must be Christian colleges even truer to their birthright than any in the past. We believe such colleges are possible. We are convinced that they are essential both to the Church and to higher education. They will play a vital part in bringing out of the tragic tensions and aspiring ferment of East Asia the type of life on earth we seek for all of God's children.

"The United Board must, with new strength, fresh ideas, and unfailing faith, help to meet that challenge."

Prepared for The Bulletin by W. P. Fenn.

NANKING SEMINARY BOARD OF FOUNDERS

The annual meeting of the Board of Founders of Nanking Theological Seminary was held in New York on May 25. The Field Secretary, Stanley Smith, has spent the past year in Bangkok, but has kept in touch with theological seminaries in Southeast Asia by visits and by correspondence. Financial grants have been made to theological schools in Formosa, Hong Kong, Thailand, Philippines, Malaya, Indonesia and Burma, and these grants have been renewed for the coming year. Dr. Smith is transferring his residence to Singapore, where he will become President of Trinity College, the recently organized union theological school there.

Further appropriations were made for the reprinting in Hong Kong of former Shanghai publications of a theological nature. A list of 15 books was approved for reprinting, in addition to the ten which were subsidized last year.

F. P. Jones reported that work is proceeding on the translation of 20 volumes of the 54-volume series of Christian classics, with nearly three million words of manuscript already in hand. The Calvin, Luther, and Temple volumes are scheduled for early publication. This work is being done at Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J., where Mr. Jones and a staff of three Chinese translators are at work.

There was considerable discussion as to the future scope of the Board. Dr. Cartwright reported that the New York Board of Regents and the Surrogate Court have now given official permission for the use of Nanking Seminary funds for theological education in regions of Asia outside China. No final decision was reached, but for the present, grants will be made to theological schools from Formosa around Southeast Asia to Burma, with the question of including India within the scope of the Board's activities left for later decision. Dr. H. P. Van Dusen, the Chairman of the Board, reported on the schools of Southeastern Asia which he had visited last winter in connection with his visit to India. He especially praised the Anderson-Smith report on theological education in that area which the Board had published. (Copies of this report may be obtained from Dr. F. T. Cartwright, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y. at one dollar a copy.) He further recommended the establishment of a high grade theological school somewhere in the Far East, which would be able to give advanced degrees, up to the Doctor's degree. But whether the Nanking Seminary Board should concentrate its resources on one high grade school, instead of making subsidiary grants to a dozen different institutions of Southeast Asia, as at present, was left for later decision.

Plans were approved for a conference on theological education for the southeastern Asia region during the coming year, probably to be held in Singapore.

MISSIONARY NEWS

A delayed report has just reached this office of the death of Rev. Elleroy M. Smith on January 20 in Omaha, Neb. He was formerly in Ningpo (Presb. U.S.A.)

Dr. W. P. Fenn, Executive Secretary of the China College Board, was scheduled to leave New York on May 28 on a flying trip to Formosa, in connection with the establishment of a Christian University.

CHURCH NEWS

It is reported from Foochow by way of Singapore that Ling Guang-bing, former principal of the Union Middle School, has been in prison for more than a year. It is stated that he had hidden a shotgun left with him by a missionary, and this was discovered by the Communists. His brother, Ling Guang-daik, former Anglo-Chinese College Principal, is reported to be having a hard time making ends meet. Whether he has any regular work now was not stated.

Harry Gould, formerly CIM, now connected with Butterfield and Swire, preached in the Shanghai Cathedral in English on March 1, the last Sunday on which English services were held there. Over a hundred were present. Now the only service in English in Shanghai is that conducted by the Endeavorers, at which Mr. Gould preaches approximately every other Sunday. Mrs. Gould teaches some half dozen different Bible Study groups in her home.

The Religious Tract Society in Shanghai has just published a book of sermon outlines by Mr. Dreyer (formerly CIM), which is being eagerly bought up by pastors. Two other recent Shanghai publications in Chinese are The Certainty of Christ and The Life in Christ.

A recent letter from Shanghai states: "At the China New Year period (in early February) there were special meetings all through the city, both for preaching the Gospel and for Bible study. I heard that in every church where a true Gospel is preached there were crowded audiences. There still continue many little meetings in homes with numbers up to eight, and I believe there is much blessing. I hear that there is a good spirit in the United Bible Seminary in Nanking (Ginling Union Theological Seminary). There is a splendid spirit in Pastor Chia Yu-ming's group.... One of the most impressive meetings of the New Year was a three day gathering of some 700 students from Universities.

The Christian Literature Society, Shanghai, has just published a book entitled Efforts of the Russian Orthodox Church on Behalf of Peace.

Prof. Shih Han-chang, of Canton Union Theological Seminary, conducted evangelistic meetings in Chungshan County during the New Year vacation. This news item, from Hsieh Chin, indicates that the Seminary is still continuing.

There are 578 members of the Foochow Methodist Sino-Soviet Friendship Leagues. On March 13 they had a delegated meeting, with one delegate from each church for every 15 members of the League in that church. The fifty-some delegates, after an opening session together, broke up into four discussion groups to consider the following questions: What have the Foochow Methodist Sino-Soviet Friendship Leagues accomplished during the past year? What effect will the death of Stalin have on Sino-Soviet relations? How can we strengthen these relations? After supper they returned to a general meeting, at which each discussion group reported its findings to the whole body. They then elected their Chairman and the eleven-man Executive Committee for the coming year.

Bishop Cheng Chien-yeh (Episcopal) has a good sermon in the January 24 Tien Feng on the text, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God."

In Hankow a Bible Study class for church workers meets every Tuesday morning in St. Paul's Cathedral under the leadership of Prof. Ren Li-ren of the Central China Seminary and Fan Hsi-kuang of the Wuchang Bible School. They study such questions as "The Authority of the Bible," "The Gospels and Gospel Writers," "Introduction to Mark." There are more than thirty regular attendants at the class.

Tien Feng for January 24 reports a number of activities of the Swatow churches. Rev. Ts'ai K'ai-chen, who visited Korea, has been reporting in the churches of Swatow what he saw there. A number of Christmas services are reported, including the singing of the Messiah in Bethel Church on Christmas night.

T'ien Wei-ho, Assistant Secretary of the YMCA in Sian, died in December. Tien Feng gives him a very elaborate writeup, which indicates that he must have been very active in the reform movement in the church.

OVERSEAS CHINESE CHURCH NEWS

The Evangelistic Band of the Chinese United Evangelical Church in the Philippines began in January the publication of The Evangel Monthly in Chinese. Simon Ting editor. Mr. Ting has a master's degree from Oberlin in Philosophy of Religion, and is one of the promising younger